

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 23165 092024Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----057144 100216Z /21

R 091925Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6904
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T PARIS 23165

EXDIS

USEEC

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT FR
SUBJECT: DE GUIRINGAUD ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: DE GUIRINGAUD MADE ONLY A QUALIFIED
DEFENSE OF GISCARD'S NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW IN MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR, ADMITTING THAT IT WAS NOT AIMED AT PRESIDENT
CARTER'S "PRESENT POLICIES". THE THREE PRINCIPLES
INCLUDED IN GISCARD/BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE REPRESENT THE
"OFFICIAL" FRENCH VIEW OF DETENTE, WHICH RESTS ON THE
THOUGHT THAT PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD GO HAND
IN HAND WITH PROGRESS ON OTHER FRONTS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN WORKING LUNCHEON WITH DE GUIRINGAUD AUGUST 8
(ALSO ATTENDED BY DE LABOULAYE AND POL COUNSELOR),
AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED OUR CONTINUED PUZZLEMENT
OVER THE FRENCH DEFINITION OF DETENTE IN LIGHT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PARIS 23165 092024Z

GISCARD'S NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW, PARTICULARLY SINCE
PRESIDENT CARTER HAD MODIFIED TACTICS BEFORE LONDON
SUMMIT AND GISCARD HAD APPARENTLY NOT MENTIONED THESE
CONCERNS TO HIM THERE. INDEED IN HIS INTERVIEW GISCARD
SEEMED TO BE ASSOCIATING HIMSELF WITH SOVIET DEFINITION
OF DETENTE.

3. GUIRINGAUD DENIED THIS AS UNFAIR AND CALLED IT A QUESTION OF DEGREE. INTERVIEW REFLECTED GISCARD'S CONCERN "AT TIME" OVER EXTENT TO WHICH BREZHNEV HAD SEEMED DISQUIETED BY CURRENT US POSTURE, WHICH COULD INTERFERE WITH PROGRESS ON OTHER IMPORTANT SUBJECTS SUCH AS SALT. IMPROVEMENTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS, LABOULAYE ELABORATED, SHOULD GO HAND IN HAND WITH OTHER MATTERS. CONVERSELY, TROUBLE ON OTHER FRONTS SUCH AS SALT WILL ALSO MAKE HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS MORE DIFFICULT.

4. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT FRENCH APPROACH NEVERTHELESS RISKS GIVING SOVIETS AN IMPORTANT PRESSURE POINT, IE THE DECISION HOW FAR THE WEST CAN GO BEFORE DETENTE HAS BEEN IMPAIRED. PRESIDENT CARTER RECOGNIZES THAT THE ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION REQUIRE CAREFUL TREATMENT. THE CHARLESTON SPEECH MADE THIS CLEAR. HE INDICATED THAT OUR IMPORTANT BUSINESS WITH THE RUSSIANS ON SALT AND OTHER MATTERS IS GOING FORWARD. WHAT WE WANT TO AVOID IS A SITUATION IN WHICH THE SOVIETS CAN EXPLOIT SEEMING DIFFERENCES ON DETENTE TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE US AND WESTERN EUROPE.

5. LABOULAYE ANSWERED THAT IN FACT THE BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING HAD GONE WELL, AND THAT THE ALLIES HAD WORKED TOGETHER EFFECTIVELY. THIS COOPERATION WOULD BE CONTINUED AMONG THE EC-9 AND IN NATO.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 PARIS 23165 092024Z

GISCARD'S NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW WAS THEREFORE AIMED MORE AT ATTITUDES REFLECTED IN THE CSCE COMMISSION REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION THAN AT PRESIDENT CARTER'S "PRESENT ATTITUDES."

6. GUIRINGAUD FURTHER EMPHASIZED THAT THE "OFFICIAL" FRENCH POSITION ON DETENTE IS REFLECTED IN THREE PRINCIPLES, INCLUDED IN THE FRENCH-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE, ISSUED DURING BREZHNEV'S PARIS VISIT, WHICH GUIRINGAUD NEGOTIATED IN MOSCOW; THAT DETENTE MUST BE (A) COMPREHENSIVE, (B) INCLUDE PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND (C) EXCLUDE EXCESSIVELY AGGRESSIVE IDEOLOGICAL COMPETITION. GUIRINGAUD ENDED THIS PART OF EXCHANGE ON THE NOTE THAT "AN INTERVIEW IS AN INTERVIEW" AND DEPENDS IN PART ON THE REPORTER AND ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DAY, IN EFFECT SHRUGGING IT OFF.

7. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR WAS LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT, HAVING MADE AN EFFORT TO EXPLAIN GISCARD'S NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW, GUIRINGAUD HOPED THAT ISSUE COULD NOW BE PUT BACK IN PERSPECTIVE OF THE MORE NUANCED AND LESS CONTROVERSIAL DETENTE DEFINITIONS THE

QUAI ITSELF HAD RECENTLY WORKED OUT. WE EXPECT THAT,
DURING HIS SEPTEMBER WASHINGTON VISIT, PRIME MINISTER
BARRE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS DETENTE AND RELATED MATTERS
WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING ANY REMAINING MISUNDERSTANDINGS.
HARTMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS23165
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770287-0232
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USEEC
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770881/aaaacqwj.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 667b635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1662970
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DE GUIRINGAUD ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS
TAGS: PINT, FR, (DE GUIRINGAUD, LOUIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/667b635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009